

2008 Governor's Environmental Excellence Award Winners
Presented April 2, 2008 at the Environment Virginia Conference in Lexington

Environmental Programs, Large Business

Micron Technology (Manassas) won both a Gold Medal and the Flag for its Environmental Management System to improve its business and ensure compliance. Implementation of its EMS ensures best management practices and innovative technologies are deployed to improve Micron's current environmental systems and to reach beyond compliance to do the right thing for its employees, company, and local community.

MeadWestvaco Corporation (Covington) won a Gold Medal for its innovative approach to operating a sludge treatment system, which led to reductions in the level of phosphorous.

BAE Systems Norfolk Ship Repair was recognized with a Gold Medal. BAE's Environmental Department has partnered with Old Dominion University, the Elizabeth River Project, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and the Marine Resources Commission to construct a variety of wildlife protection areas and to engage in research to develop technology to remove toxic paint additives from its wastewaters.

Lockheed Martin (Manassas) won a Bronze Medal for its Environmental Performance Reporting System. This system allows Lockheed to produce an integrated facility-level report that provides information about its Manassas operation and its impact on the community to anyone interested.

Cargill Meat Solutions (Dayton) won a Bronze Medal for the Cooks Creek Restoration Project. Working with students in Ecology classes at Turner Ashby High School in Bridgewater, Cargill restored the health of Cooks Creek, positively impacting several environmental media.

Small Business, Environmental Program

A Bronze Medal was awarded to **SOZO Clean** (Newport News), a small business. The SOZO Policy safeguards the health and safety of both staff and clients, and eliminates toxic waste water from its jobs, helping to sustain the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

Government, Environmental Programs

A Gold Medal and Flag were presented to the **City of Charlottesville**. The City's Environmental Sustainability Initiative involves efforts to protect and sustain both city-specific and community-wide air, water, and land, and to minimize waste as well as energy resources.

The **Center for Environmental & Natural Sciences at Freedom High School** (Prince William County) won a Gold Medal. The Center implements projects and programs to increase students' knowledge in the environmental & natural sciences; reduce waste and improve water quality;

conserve resources and improve local habitats. They also work to increase their school's and local community's awareness of environmental issues and encourage them to actively participate in efforts that will make a difference.

A Silver Medal was presented to the **York County School Division** for its Energy Conservation Program. This program enlists energy-saving design strategies and education to reduce the division's energy consumption.

The **US Army Transportation Center, Fort Eustis** was awarded a Silver Medal. Its Environmental Management System has allowed Fort Eustis to significantly reduce the environmental impact of the installation's activities through material substitution, process modification, good housekeeping, training, and collaborative outreach efforts.

The **University of Virginia** was awarded a Silver Medal for its Sustainability Initiative. The UVA Office of Environmental Health and Safety has initiated programs to support sustainability. These include recycling, energy conservation, storm water pollution prevention, water conservation and waste reduction.

A Bronze Medal was awarded to the **Virginia Department of Corrections**. The Department's Pollution Prevention Program provides full environmental services to all the institutions within the Department, including reductions in electrical, fossil fuel, and water consumption as well as increased environmental education, awareness, and environmental efforts among its staff.

A Bronze Medal was awarded to the **Virginia Beach City Public Schools**. Their Green Schools Program integrates environmentally sustainable practices into the school division while educating students about the importance of improving the environment and working towards sustainability.

The **Town of Blacksburg**, in coordination with **Virginia Tech and Sustainable Blacksburg**, was awarded a Bronze Medal for Sustainability Week 2007. This was a week-long series of events for the Blacksburg community aimed at motivating individuals to move beyond awareness to actively undertake efforts that will protect the environment and promote sustainability within the community.

Old Dominion University's Environmental Advisory Committee was recognized with a Bronze Medal. This Committee serves as the University's focal point for all its environmental and pollution prevention programs, as well as its springboard for sustainability measures, carbon footprint activities, and information-sharing about green building and planning.

Environmental Projects, Large Business

A Gold Medal and Flag were awarded to **Volvo Trucks North America – NRV Plant** (Dublin). Volvo's categorical wastewater recycling project resulted in a reuse rate of 70% of the plant's process wastewater.

Canon Virginia (Newport News) received a Silver Medal for implementing a new batch powder coating system. This innovative and environmentally friendly pretreatment technology called plasmaization improves quality while exceeding the environmental aspects outlined in Canon's Environmental Management System Policy.

Boehringer Ingelheim Chemicals (Petersburg) won a Silver Medal in acknowledgement of its significant reductions of VOC air emissions and wastewater discharges, increased recycling, and the conservation of natural resources—all achieved while manufacturing output and operational complexity have continued to expand.

Columbia Gas of Virginia (Chester) received a Silver Medal. Columbia Gas addressed potential environmental risks of land areas through remediation and the development of green space. The result was the development of Fort Nelson Park and the Swimming Point Conservancy, as well as good working relationships with the community and neighbors of Columbia Gas.

The **Coors Brewing Company's Shenandoah Facility** (Elkton) was awarded a Silver Medal. The Coors' project involved constructing biogas boilers as part of its wastewater treatment system, allowing the facility to utilize methane as a beneficial fuel while reducing its emissions.

A Bronze Medal was awarded to **Smithfield – North** for its “Dressed to Save--Boiler Jackets” project. Smithfield installed an extra element of insulation on its boilers to eliminate heat loss, minimize fuel use, and positively impact the company's bottom line.

Smithfield Ham & Products was recognized for its Conservation of Natural Resources with a Bronze Medal for its successful efforts to reduce its impact on the environment in three key areas: water, natural gas, and electric usage.

A Bronze Medal was awarded to **Philip Morris USA – Park 500** for its project relating to recycling and reusing two of its solid waste streams. Park 500 ensured sustainable reuse of its tobacco by-products by working with a vendor who utilized processes that include composting the material, creating a value-added product, and marketing that product.

Environmental Projects, Small Business

A Silver Medal was won by the **Hopewell Cogeneration Facility**, which developed a way to reduce nitrous oxide (NOx) on plant startup without sacrificing time or energy, and without expending money or modifying the plant in any way.

The **Chesapeake Energy Center Carbon Burn Out Plant**, which enables PMI Ash Technologies and Dominion Virginia Power to beneficially reuse fly ash while establishing a market for the product and increasing the power plant's efficiency due to heat return from the fly ash, was awarded a Silver Medal.

Environmental Projects, Partnerships

The **Hinge House** (Charlottesville) was awarded a Gold Medal. This project resulted from a partnership between the Gaines Group and the Charlottesville Albemarle Technical Education Center. The Hinge House is constructed of local materials and is both water- and energy-efficient. It is the first high school student-built registered LEED for Homes project in the country.

A Gold Medal was awarded to the **Virginia Regional Environmental Management System Partnership**. VREMS, as it is known, was established and continues to thrive under the leadership of Defense Supply Center Richmond. It is an EMS-based regional approach to environmental and community-based issues by a partnership built on trust, information-sharing, and collaboration.

The **Blacksburg Community Electronics Reuse and Recycling Project**, a partnership between the Town of Blacksburg and the YMCA at Virginia Tech, was awarded a Gold Medal. This project has diverted more than 85,000 pounds of electronics from the landfill, continues to encourage reuse of products, and provides electronics to the community at an affordable price.

Land Conservation, Government

The **Southern Tip Partnership of Northampton County** was awarded the Gold Medal. This partnership was established in 1990 among Virginia's Coastal Zone Management Program, the Department of Conservation & Recreation, the Department of Game & Inland Fisheries, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Nature Conservancy. Together they identify lands critical for wildlife and plant community protection and work towards their acquisition. This award recognizes the formal collaboration of these partners through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in December, 2006.

The **US Army Garrison, Fort A.P. Hill**, was awarded the Silver Medal. This partnership of a State agency, Federal agency, and three non-governmental organizations is recognized for its efforts to cost-share the acquisition of conservation easements from willing landowners. This approach enables the preservation of high-value habitat and limits incompatible development surrounding Fort A.P. Hill while safeguarding the Fort's training mission.

Land Conservation, Individual

Charlotte Hanes won a Gold Medal for the New River Conservation Project. Charlotte Hanes is a champion for conservation of the scenic and productive lands along the New River, Virginia's only American Heritage River. She has placed easements on more than 650 acres, protecting 4.2 miles of the New River in Grayson County. Ms. Hanes was a leader in identifying a less costly and more appropriate site for a proposed state prison and, in doing so, ensured the conservation of this scenic stretch of the New River.

Mr. William Owen, III, won a Silver Medal for the Raccoon Creek Pinelands 1 project. This donation of a 1,400 acre easement provides multiple conservation benefits including preservation of working forest land and a habitat for rare species and natural communities, as well as protection of the water quality.

Caroline Stalnaker won a Bronze Medal for the Mount Pleasant Farm project. This project ensures protection of more than 100 acres of farm and forest which contain important agricultural, natural and historic resources. An innovative public-private partnership permanently protects the compatibility of conservation and continued farming of this land along Cedar Creek, which has been widely recognized for its good water quality.